

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 02363 020900Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 ARA-10 /088 W
-----043428 030449Z /15
R 020824Z AUG 78
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1552
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 2363

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CH, RQ, US, PEPR
SUBJ: PRC VIEWS ON PUERTO RICO

REF: PEKING 2362

1. AN NCNA ARTICLE DATED JULY 31 HAS REITERATED CHINESE SUPPORT OF PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE. THE ARTICLE REPORTS A STATEMENT IN SAN JOSE BY INDEPENDENCE PARTY LEADER RUBEN BERRIOS CALLING FOR THE ISLAND'S INDEPENDENCE. IT ALSO REPORTS THE STATEMENT IN PRESIDENT CARTER'S JULY 25 PROCLAMATION THAT HE WOULD "SUPPORT, AND URGE THE CONGRESS TO SUPPORT, WHATEVER DECISION THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO REACH" IN A FUTURE REFERENDUM.

2. IN ITS COMMENT, NCNA DECLARES THAT THE 1952 REFERENDUM WAS "RIGGED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT" AND THAT AFTER THE 1967 VOTE THE U.S. "RETAINED PUERTO RICO IN ITS STATUS QUO -- A COLONY IN A DISGUISED FORM." IT GOES ON TO CHARGE THAT THE "U.S. RULING CLIQUE HAS SPED UP THE PLAN OF ANNEXING PUERTO RICO AS ANOTHER STATE" AND THAT FORMER PRESIDENT FORD SENT TO THE CONGRESS A "PUERTO RICO STATEHOOD ACT" AT THE BEGINNING OF 1977. "ALL THESE ACTIONS," THE ARTICLE CONCLUDES, "HAVE MET WITH STRONG ATTACKS FROM PUERTO RICANS."

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3. COMMENT: THE ARTICLE IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PREVIOUS CHINESE POSITION ON THE PUERTO RICO QUESTION AND WITH THE REACTION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO THE AMBASSADOR'S DEMARCHE AUGUST 1 (REFTEL). WOODCOCK

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 02 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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